

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO.
N	485



n Lexington

ress 56 Bloomfield Street

Mathews-Silloway-Kilgore  
toric Name D.F. Kilgore House

:: Present residential

Original residential

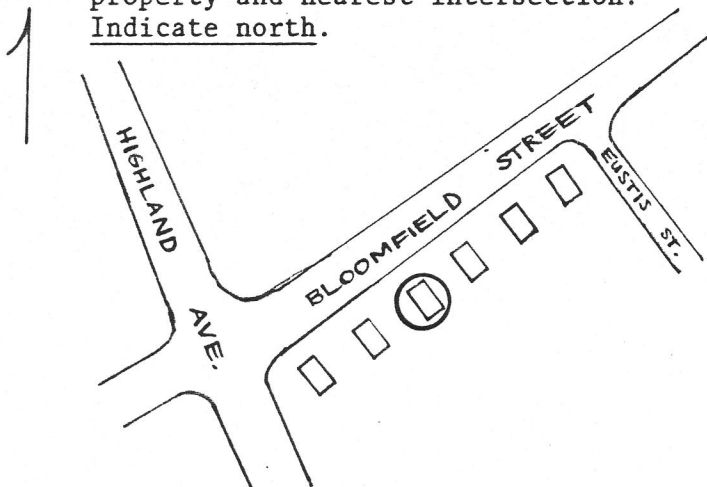
DESCRIPTION:

le 1884

Source inscribed on house sheathing

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Anne Grady

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date March, 1984

Style Queen Anne

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric clapboards, shingles

Outbuildings 2 garages

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 30000 ft.<sup>2</sup>

Setting Residential street; houses of similar scale and finish built primarily in the 1880s.

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

This house is part of an architecturally cohesive street on which most houses were built in the 1880s. This house is embellished with Queen Anne features: a polygonal corner porch with conical roof, turned posts, stickwork trim, and entrance door placed diagonally at the corner of the house; a bay window; and a shed dormer accented with patterned shingles. This house is a mirror image of the one at 23 Bloomfield Street. An historic photograph shows that this was one of the houses on the street which had a carriage house originally.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

The first owner of this house was named Mathews. The current owner discovered the inscription "John Lord, Freedom, N.Y October, 1884" written under a clapboard. This might be the name of one of the carpenters who built the house. By 1902, the house was owned by Dwight Foster Kilgore, a mechanical engineer, who served as sewer and water commissioner of Lexington. In the early 20th century, the cement block structure at the right rear of the property is listed as the Kilgore Machine Company machine shop on maps.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, p. 342. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Kelley, Beverly Allison. Lexington, A Century of Photographs, p. 12. Boston: Lexington Historical Society, 1980.

Personal communication from Martin Gilman.

1918 Sanborn map

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town  
LEXINGTON

Property Address  
56 BLOOMFIELD ST.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

N

485

## HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

According to the previous inventory form prepared for this property, Mathews was the original owner. A notice appearing in the *Lexington Minute-man* on September 17, 1888 announced that Dr. Raymond had just sold property on Bloomfield Street to a Captain Richard Matthews. Capt. Matthews died in Malden in 1893 at the age of 75 (*Minute-man*, Dec. 15, 1893).

In the 1890s the property was owned by Joseph Silloway. The 1894 directory lists his address as Bloomfield Street and his occupation as sailmaker. He is also shown as the owner on the 1898 map.

On June 29, 1901 the *Lexington Minute-Man* announced that "The Siloway property on Bloomfield street has been sold to Mr. Dwight Kilgour of East Lexington". Kilgore was still living here in 1932 but by 1942 the property was occupied by Henry Chauncy, a dean at Harvard.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Lexington Directories, various years.  
*Lexington Minute-man*, Sept. 17, 1888; Dec. 15, 1893; June 29, 1901.  
U.S. Census, Lexington.

Supplement prepared by:  
Lisa Mausolf  
April 2009